



Indian Health Service  
12300 Twinbrook Parkway, #600B  
Rockville, Maryland 20852

January 27, 1998

**To:** The Record  
Health Facilities Advisory Committee (HFAC)

**From:** Recording Secretary, HFAC

**Subject:** November 10, 1997, HFAC Meeting Minutes

**Members:** CAPT Kenneth Harper, P.E., Chairman, IHS/DFEE/ESS  
\* CAPT Jay Farmwald, P.E., Vice-Chairman, IHS/Alaska Area/OEHE  
RADM Thomas Gallegos, P.E., Member, IHS/DFEE/ESD  
\* CAPT Kerry Gragg, P.E., Member, IHS/California Area/OEHE  
CDR George Styer, P.E., Member, IHS/Nashville Area/OEHE  
\* Mr. Gilbert Harrison, P.E. Member, IHS/Navajo Area/OEHE  
\* Ms. Lee Shands, Member, IHS/Navajo Area  
Mr. James Biasco, P.E., Member, IHS/DFEE  
CDR José Cuzme, P.E., Member, IHS/DFEE (\* voting members absent)

**Guests:** CAPT Paul Fardig, P.E.

**Old Business:**

- (1) Minutes of October 1<sup>st</sup> meeting were approved.
- (2) P-39, Upgrading Government Building Security - The proposal and the comments on the current draft were discussed. The concern is that there are security requirements by others outside of these DOJ report, i.e. by JCAHO, that are not expressed in this chapter. The interpretation may be that these are the only requirements. A clarifying sentence was added to the proposed chapter and it was approved.
- (3) Discussion on the Applicable IHS base code of reference - The issue was originally brought to the HFAC since it appeared that facilities were being built to one code requirement yet were only required to be maintained to another, possibly lower, standard. After much discussion, it was determined that IHS and Federal facilities must be designed in accordance with the NFPA 101--Life Safety Code and supplemented with a major building code as applicable. For fire safety the NFPA 101 shall govern. Where the two codes cover the same item, the Life Safety Code shall govern. Refer to the revised IHS A/E design guide for additional clarification.

With regards to which code requirement a facility is to be maintained at: all fire/life safety items in a facility must be maintained if present. Not maintaining any of these

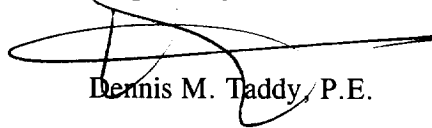
items provides a false sense of security which could endanger life and safety. If it is determined that certain life safety items are no longer needed because of change in occupancy/code revisions/etc. these items must be removed and not just abandoned in place. This will be clarified in the health care facilities operations manual developed by Mr. Jesse Sintes.

**New Business:**

- (1) Deep Looks--Discussion on whether to do it every 5 or 10 years. Proposed to discuss with Area facility managers. Decided to do every 5 years.
- (2) Installation of Automatic Sprinkler Protection--DFEE needs to finalize draft policy by March 1998.
- (3) Incinerator Policy--DFEE needs to follow up to develop policy.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:30PM.

Respectfully Submitted,



Dennis M. Taddy, P.E.

cc: Members, HFAC (via e-mail)